SB 449, permitting tastings by distilleries at farmers markets.

Commerce: OTP 3-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows liquor manufacturers to offer samples at farmers markets.

- This bill is a small improvement in that it reduces restriction of free trade and allows businesses to transact with customers in more locations.
- Allowing local businesses to showcase local products benefits NH residents and helps the NH economy.

SB 420, permitting qualifying patients and designated caregivers to cultivate cannabis for therapeutic use.

Health and Human Services: OTP 3-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows qualifying medical cannabis patients and designated caregivers to cultivate a limited number of plants for therapeutic use.

- This bill decreases medical costs for patients by allowing them to grow their own medicine.
- People should not have to choose between fearing criminal prosecution and not having access to medicine.
- This bill gives patients better access to their medicine. Many patients do not live near the few dispensaries in the state, and will benefit from this bill.
- The New Hampshire Democratic platform states “We support policies to improve access to healthcare in our rural communities and other medically underserved areas”. What better way to help contribute to access than to allow patients to cultivate their own medicine?

SB 651, prohibiting collective bargaining agreements that require employees to join or contribute to a labor union.

Judiciary: ITL 4-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits collective bargaining agreements that require employees to join or contribute to a labor union and prohibits coercion and intimidation intended to compel an employee to join, affiliate with, or financially support a labor organization or to refrain from doing so.

- The federal National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) contains several coercive mechanisms that infringe upon the rights of workers and business owners. Among these are section 9a which mandates exclusive representation by a single union and mandates that the union representative is given opportunity to be present at grievance adjustment between employers and employees even if the employee does not wish that the representative is present. In addition, it forces employers to recognize and bargain collectively with unions following a majority vote of their workforces.
- Right-to-work is the only way currently permitted under federal law to restore some of the freedom of dissenting workers and their employers to withhold support from unions with whom they disagree. While this bill interferes with freedom of contract, it does so in a way intended to remedy current, more egregious limitations of freedom of contract.